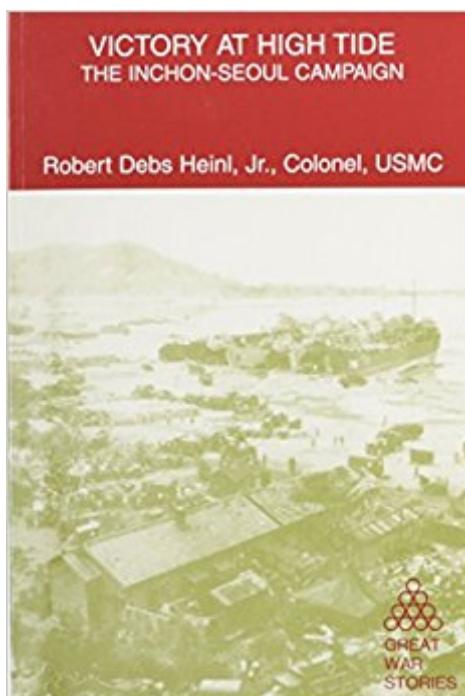


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Victory At High Tide: The Inchon-Seoul Campaign (Great War Stories)



Synopsis

Book by Robert Debs Heinl

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Book by Robert Debs Heinl

Author Robert Debs Heinl gives us an detailed account of Operation Chromite, the Inchon Invasion, as well as the capture of Seoul in what would be Douglas MacArthur's last victory. The author, a Marine officer, gives us a very cogent chronicle of the operation from MacArthur's initial desire to launch an amphibious operation deep in the enemy's rear, through the gathering of far-flung Marine units with which to assault the port city to the actual invasion and fight for the Korean capitol. Most people don't realize how far the US conventional military had been drawn down and the US Marines were in danger of being eliminated by the Truman administration. The units and amphibious ships available were few and scattered. The spines of US military and political operatives were typically soft (Omar Bradley would confess they acted like "a lot of nervous nellies") but MacArthur would not be denied. The author lists all the known disadvantages of an amphibious operation at Inchon, gives us the forces that would be employed - naval, Marine and Army as well as the course of the battles. There are a lot of good accounts from the lowest-tactical level down to the company and platoon with first-person accounts from Marines fighting their way onto Wolmi-Do island, over the seawall into Inchon and all the way into the capitol to victory. The only minor criticism is that it's very

Marine-centric with very little from the other services. Having said that, it's a good account of the fighting at the tactical level. I recommend this work with five stars.

This book is considered the definitive work on the Incheon invasion. Many interesting points. Very accurate and well worth the read.

A well written chronicle of a campaign experienced by my brother-in-law, a 60mm mortar team leader, Fox Company, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division.

Specially requested by my son, a United States Marine, now serving in Iraq. He loved it.

Received it quickly and although I asked for a used copy, the book was brand new.

COL Heinl's treatment of the landing at Inchon is thorough and informative. It is a story of a highly complex operation that was run on a shoestring and high expectations of failure. He gives you a feeling of you are there at the planning sessions, and as the ships lurch from Japan to Korea in a typhoon. You are there when the LSTs come into the beaches, which have the second largest tidal ranges in the world, and dry out when the tide recedes. You are there when the Marines reach the seawall and have to scale it using ladders. There were casualties at Inchon but I get the feeling that if there had been a more determined enemy resistance, the outcome of the operation might have been different. This book is a must for an understanding of the first months of America's involvement in the Korean War. It should be on everyone's shelf as it is of great value to understanding why we are still in Korea fifty years after the invasion at Inchon.

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